



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 22, 2002

S. 2672 **Community-Based Forest and Public Lands Restoration Act**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on October 8, 2002*

SUMMARY

CBO estimates that implementing S. 2672 would cost \$30 million over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues. S. 2672 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 2672 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to establish a program to collaborate with local communities on projects to restore damaged national forest lands and public lands. The bill would authorize the secretaries to grant funds to or enter into cooperative agreements with certain entities to establish and operate centers that would provide technical assistance related to those projects.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

For this estimate, CBO assumes that S. 2672 will be enacted early in fiscal year 2003 and that the necessary amounts to implement the bill will be provided near the start of each fiscal year. The estimated budgetary impact of S. 2672 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	6	6	6	6	6
Estimated Outlays	6	6	6	6	6

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

S. 2672 would direct the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to establish at least six centers to provide technical assistance regarding restoration projects. The federal government would pay up to \$1 million of each center's annual planning and operating costs. Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that establishing and operating six centers would cost \$6 million a year over the 2003-2007 period, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Costs could be higher if more than six centers are established.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

S. 2672 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

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